

Governor, and it essentially contained the provisions that were included in LB 450, but, in addition, it also provided a different method by which the agency would be structured, and it was to be put under the Department of Labor with the director appointed by the Governor. That portion of 886 is stricken by the committee amendment, and under the committee amendment again the provisions of LB 450 are included, which are a series of procedural changes as to the way the agency would operate. And then, in addition, it would change the selection of the director and it would be done in this fashion. Currently, this is one of those agencies which is not a code agency in which a Governor selects the members of the commission, and the commission in turn selects a director and the staff. This is part and parcel of some changes that have occurred over the years in a number of agencies. When you go back, particularly agencies that were authorized in the fifties and sixties, there was a tendency, in many instances, to...on the presumption it was being isolated from political impact, that there would be an independent agency. Gradually over time a number of those have changed. You'll recall the Department of Economic Development was such a situation that was changed when Governor Kerrey was Governor. The Commission on Natural Resources was similar, that was changed. Department of Health was similar, that was changed under...when Governor Thone, and, in fact, there's been a number of times when there have been independent...the review of the constitution in which...by Constitution Revision Commission, for example, in 1970, and others where the concept of independent commissions have generally been recommended to be discontinued and have a more direct contact or direct responsibility with the Office of Governor. The proposal here is somewhat different. The Governor would have the authority, as he does now, to appoint the seven commissioners, with the same criteria for their selection as existing law. In addition, the Governor would have the authority to designate who was to be chairman of the commission, and the chairman would serve at the pleasure of the Governor as chairman, but...and could be removed as chairman, but not removed from the commission. But the Governor then could designate someone else to serve as chairman among the seven members. However, the director, under this, would be appointed by the Governor for a fixed term of six years, and could only be removed for cause. I suppose it's kind of a hybrid between a code department and a totally independent agency. But the more significant things, I believe, in the legislation as a result of the performance evaluation, which a